Countries supporting India's permanent Membership of Security Council

3607. SHRI BHAGABAN MAW. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the efforts made by Government to become a permanent Member in the United Nations Security Council;

(b) the countries which are supporting India for inclusion as a Member in the Security Council; and

(c) the stand taken by Government in the above matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) The leader of the Indian delegation to the 49th session of the United Nations General Assembly, said in his speech in the Plenary Meeting that given any criteria population, size of the economy or future potential, contribution So the mainten-an;e of international peace and security and peace-keeping—Indian deserves to be a Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council. The working Group of the United Nations General Assembly on the "Questions of Equitable Representation on and increase in the permanent membership of the Security Council" is not discussing individual candidatures, but the principles and criteria that should govern an expansion, and the member States have not, therefore, been required to take a stand on the candidatures of any country. India will continue to actively participate in the discussions in the Working Group.

Clarifications about India's Nuclear Plans sought by Japan

3608. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese Government have sought a clarification from the Indian Government recently, regarding the latter's nuclear weapons plans and ballistic missiles development and deve-loyment initiatives, as per the ntws-item Dublished in the Hindustan Times', dated the 30th March, 1995 entitled;, "Japan to seek India's views to N-Plans'"?

(b) if so; the facts in this regard; and

(c) what is the reaction of Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) and (b) The Second High ODA Mission on Economic and Technological Cooperation from Japan held talks with officials in the Ministry of Finance on 28-3-95, during which, in accordance with Japanese ODA policy since 1992, the Japanese side referred to certain non-economic factors non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and missile delivery systems.

(c) The Japanese delegation was briefed about India's commitment to non-proliferation and disarmament. It was pointed out that these isues are discussed regularly in Foreign Office consultations.

India's participation in the ministerial level meeting with EU Troika

3609. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been invited by Singapore and ASEAN, so far to attend] participate in the Europe-Asia Summit likely to be held in Bangkok or Singapore next year;

(b) whether the Minister of External Affairs, who returned to India after attending the ministerial level meeting with European Union troika in Paris recently, has sounded the EU on India's feeling position in this regard;

(c) what were the other issues concerning India in which he made our stand clear particularly on India's participating in the NPT review meeting scheduled in April this year, India's claim for permanent membership of the UN Security Council and enhancing India's political, Economic and Commercial interacton to our mutual advantage; and